

The diploma thesis "A journey of a child from own family to a foster family – Substitute family care in the Czech republic" deals with the problematics of substitute family care focusing on foster family care. Institutional education is being taken into account as well, since it represents one of the possibilities of a child's placement out of own family. Because it is a priority and for the good of a child to grow up in a family environment, institutional education should be used only as the last possible solution. The Czech republic has been often criticised for having too high amount of children growing up in institutions and for infringing the rights arising from the Convention on the Rights of the Child. In this context foster family care and possible establishment of professional foster family care has currently been discussed in the Czech republic. Even the nowadays system of foster family care is not spared from criticism. The solution for this system of care for children without family background inheres in establishment of professional foster family care which allows children, who cannot grow up in their biological families and who are not (for legal or actual reasons) suitable for adoption, to grow up in family environment. Attention is payed to experiences from foreign countries with a special emphasis on the professional family, which has been working well in Slovakia and may serve as a good example for the Czech republic.